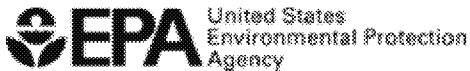


Message

From: Rodriguez, Jason [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=6972399AC1B842A98464F0B1559DEBDE-RODRIGUEZ,]
Sent: 8/20/2018 9:16:05 PM
To: Skadowski, Suzanne [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1713ed42e6e244bc9fcd783d4a8d39ab-Skadowski, Suzanne]; Grandinetti, Robert [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9c73f8984588411fa3df484d6386a013-Grandinetti, Robert]; Levo, Brian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=25404739f3bd46dc95b0de1cfad58bb4-Levo, Brian M.]
CC: Kenknight, Jeff [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=803cda0c34f14c298367a1c90825ef16-Kenknight, Jeff]
Subject: RE: MEDIA INQUIRY: Sewage release into Sinclair Inlet by Naval Air Station Kitsap-Bremerton

Hi Suzanne,
Brian Levo is the NPDES enforcement coordinator in our unit. I wanted to make sure he is in on the email chain, thanks so much.
-Jason



Jason Rodriguez | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Compliance and Enforcement | Region 10 | Water and Wetlands Enforcement
1200 6th Avenue, Suite 155, OCE 201 | Seattle, WA 98101
P: (206) 553.8508 | F: (206) 553.4743 Attn OCE 101 | rodriguez.jason@epa.gov

From: Skadowski, Suzanne
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 2:10 PM
To: Grandinetti, Robert <Grandinetti.Robert@epa.gov>
Cc: Rodriguez, Jason <Rodriguez.Jason@epa.gov>; Kenknight, Jeff <Kenknight.Jeff@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: MEDIA INQUIRY: Sewage release into Sinclair Inlet by Naval Air Station Kitsap-Bremerton

Hi Rob,

Any updates on this from the Navy or on our end.

I've got a new inquiry from Puget Soundkeeper (Puget Sound Partnership called me last week).

Thank you,
Suzanne

Suzanne Skadowski
Public Affairs Specialist | Media Relations
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From: Skadowski, Suzanne
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2018 4:37 PM

To: Rodriguez, Jason <Rodriguez.Jason@epa.gov>; Kenknight, Jeff <Kenknight.Jeff@epa.gov>; Grandinetti, Robert <Grandinetti.Robert@epa.gov>

Cc: R10 Press Team <R10_Press_Team@epa.gov>; Edmondson, Lucy <Edmondson.Lucy@epa.gov>; Kowalski, Edward <Kowalski.Edward@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: MEDIA INQUIRY: Sewage release into Sinclair Inlet by Naval Air Station Kitsap-Bremerton

News clip from yesterday's inquiry

Blocked sewer line at Naval Base Kitsap-Bremerton spilled an estimated 80,000 gallons of wastewater into Sinclair Inlet Kitsap Sun

A blocked sewer line at Naval Base Kitsap-Bremerton resulted in an estimated 80,000 gallons of wastewater spilling into Sinclair Inlet during the past two weeks.

The Navy discovered the spill on Aug. 10 after receiving reports of a "sewage-like" odor near the stormwater outfall at Sinclair Inlet and near the Navy Exchange at NBK-Bremerton, said Naval Base Kitsap spokesman Jake Chappelle.

More: Health officials warn public to avoid contact with Sinclair Inlet after Navy sewage spill

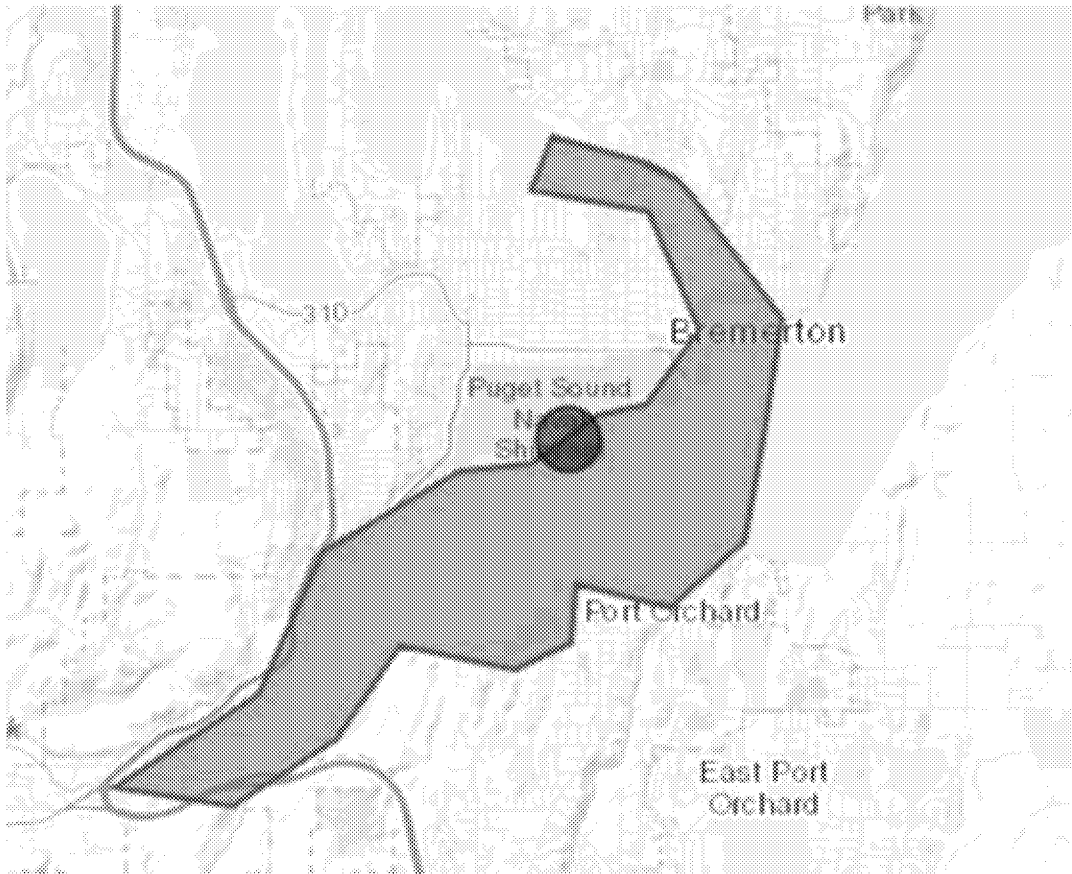
Upon investigation of that smell, Navy public works technicians determined a blockage in one of the main sewer lines had redirected wastewater into a stormwater vault that overflowed into the outfall near Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

Technicians were able to stop the spill on Monday after clearing the blockage from the sewer line and taking further preventative actions, Chappelle said.

Navy public works engineers estimated most of the spill contained wastewater from a laundry facility near the stormwater vault with a "minor portion from other matter."

"As with all potential environmental and health concerns, the Navy remains committed to enhancing and conserving the environment by working with our agency partners, including Washington Department of Natural Resources and Kitsap Public Health District," Chappelle said.

Kitsap Public Health District was notified of the wastewater spill Tuesday afternoon, four days after the Navy discovered the issue. Health officials estimate wastewater had been spilling into Sinclair Inlet since July 30, according to a notice from the Kitsap Public Health District.



Approximate location of sewage spill noted with bullseye. (Photo: Kitsap Public Health Advisory)

More: [State, trust plan to purchase former Mason County scout camp](#)

As a result, health officials issued a week-long no-contact advisory through Aug. 21 for the waters of Sinclair Inlet and the head of the Port Washington Narrows, just up until Lions Park.

Health officials recommend people avoid swimming, wading and other types of water recreation in areas where contaminated water could be swallowed or come into contact with the mouth, nose or eyes until the advisory is longer in effect.

"The concern with sewage is that it contains pathogens, organisms or materials that can be harmful to human health," said John Kiess, environmental health director for Kitsap Public Health District. "Bacteria and viruses exist as parts of those pathogens, and when released to the environment, the concern is that individuals can come into contact with contaminated water, through an open wound or by accidentally ingesting some water."

If someone comes into contact with potentially contaminated water, Kiess said to make sure to wash off the area and practice good hygiene going forward.

Even with the large estimated amount of wastewater released into Sinclair Inlet, Kiess said that doesn't necessarily mean it's all just floating around in the water out there.

"Sewage attenuates quickly," Kiess said. "80,000 gallons is not a small amount, but as you move away from the source of the spill, the bacteria and virus dissipate."

Although the Kitsap Public Health District's notice initially identified Puget Sound Naval Shipyard as the source of the spill, PSNS spokesman J.C. Mathews said Wednesday morning the spill actually originated from Naval Base Kitsap-Bremerton rather than from the shipyard.

Navy officials were unavailable for comment Tuesday afternoon after the notice had been sent out.

Kiess said the report health officials received Tuesday afternoon seemed to indicate the spill originated from the shipyard, however there was some confusion about exactly where the spill came from because of the "common vernacular" with the Navy presence along the waterfront.

The shipyard is the largest of many tenant commands located on the Navy base along Bremerton's waterfront.

More: [Puget Sound Naval Shipyard workers have 50-year milestone met or in sight](#)

"Public understanding is that the shipyard is just the whole place, but it's not really like that," he said, noting that the health district released a [corrected notice](#) Wednesday morning. "We didn't want to confuse that."

Naval Base Kitsap installations across the county have been the source for a number of sewage spills into Puget Sound waterways this year.

In early January, [an intermittent sewage leak](#) at Naval Base Kitsap's Naval Undersea Warfare Center Keyport spilled an unknown quantity of sewage into Nesika Bay.

Later that month, an [84,000-gallon sewage spill](#) originating from Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor prompted the recall of 2,000 oysters harvested at a tribal shellfish farm in Dyes Inlet.

In February, an open valve allowed [1,000 gallons of sewage](#) to spill out of a holding tank into a utility area at Puget Sound Naval Shipyards' Dry Dock 6, which then flowed through a drainage pipe and into the inlet.

Even with the number recent of incidents and the volume of spilled sewage, Kiess said the Navy's accidents hadn't reached an "unheard of" level.

"One thing I will say is kudos to the Navy for doing a better job of reporting," Kiess said. "Many years ago we didn't know about these things. They're telling people when they have these accidents and making sure people are aware of them."

Naval Base Kitsap's sewage systems operate under permits from the Environmental Protection Agency. At this point, with the limited amount of available information, EPA spokeswoman Suzanne Skadowski said the Navy has complied with the permits' requirement to notify the agency of a spill. They are not facing any penalties or disciplinary action for this incident.

"We're just waiting to hear more at this point," she said.

Suzanne Skadowski

Public Affairs Specialist | Media Relations

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From: Skadowski, Suzanne

Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 2:21 PM

To: Rodriguez, Jason <Rodriguez.Jason@epa.gov>; Kenknight, Jeff <Kenknight.Jeff@epa.gov>; Grandinetti, Robert <Grandinetti.Robert@epa.gov>

Cc: R10 Press Team <R10_Press_Team@epa.gov>; Edmondson, Lucy <Edmondson.Lucy@epa.gov>; Kowalski, Edward <Kowalski.Edward@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: MEDIA INQUIRY: Sewage release into Sinclair Inlet by Naval Air Station Kitsap-Bremerton

Thank you for the info Jason, much appreciated.

I'll follow up with Rob later.

For now, I'm going to tell the reporter that the Navy notified EPA this week per the requirements of their EPA NPDES permit, we are awaiting a follow up report from the Navy. Will refer reporter to the Navy for more information at this time.

Some earlier news clips in this incident:

[Warning issued after 80000 gallons of sewage spills from Naval Base ...](#) Navy Times

[80000 gallons of sewage flows into Sinclair Inlet](#) Q13 FOX

[80000 gallons of sewage spills into Puget Sound's Sinclair Inlet](#) KING5

Suzanne Skadowski

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From: Skadowski, Suzanne

Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 2:07 PM

To: Kenknight, Jeff <Kenknight.Jeff@epa.gov>; Rodriguez, Jason <Rodriguez.Jason@epa.gov>

Subject: MEDIA INQUIRY: Sewage release into Sinclair Inlet by Naval Air Station Kitsap-Bremerton

Hi Jason:

Kitsap Sun reporter just called me to ask about a sewage release from the shipyard reported by the Navy yesterday. Reporter says release was reported yesterday but has been ongoing for 2 weeks.

Do we have a regulatory role in this? Reporter was referred to us by Ecology.

When you track down this info, please call me!

Suzanne Skadowski

Public Affairs Specialist | Media Relations

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